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INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY East Germany

SUBJECT Weekly OB Summary

REPORT

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The following is a summary of information on Soviet and East German military activities received prior to 23 August 1955:

A. General:

Soviet units, in the middle of August, carried out exercises of mixed combat groups at higher than regimental level. To date, four divisions are involved and their activities frequently include river crossings and night combat practices. Intensive movements continued to training grounds for firing practices of tank, artillery, rocket launcher, and AAA units. The KVP training program included numerous engineer practices, partly in cooperation with Soviet units in Muehlberg/Elbe. Approximately 50 additional T-54 tanks arrived.

B. Soviet Dispositions:

1. First Guards Mechanized Army:

Prior to 10 August, river crossing practices continued in the Riesa-Muehlberg area by units of the Ninth Tank Division and engineer units presumably belonging to the Eighth Guards Mechanized Division, the 11th Guards Tank Division or the Engineer Regiment of the 1st Guards Mechanized Army, together with KVP units.

On 2 August, two shipments belonging to the 8th Guards Mechanized Division were observed at Wurzen-Schwepnitz (Koenigsbrueck). 25X1

Between 13 and 17 August, one shipment was sent from Meissen to Forst Zinna (Jueterbog) with elements of the AAA Regiment of the 11th Guards Tank Division or elements of the Rocket Launcher Regiment of the 1st Guards Mechanized Army.

2. Second Guards Mechanized Army:

Between 16 and 17 August, the bulk of the 1st Mechanized Division and the 2nd Light Artillery Brigade departed Doeberitz for their training grounds.

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This movement included loading 120 tanks for approximately seven days of training.

Between 8 and 13 August, the 41st Rocket Launcher Battalion of the 1st Mechanized Division was transferred to the Jueterbog training grounds for firing practices.

Between 7 and 12 August, there were exercises on the part of the major elements of the 12th Guards Tank Division in the area of the Wittstock training grounds.

On 8 August, elements of the 75th AAA Regiment, which presumably had been transferred to the Altengrabow training grounds on 4 July, returned to their stations.

3. Third Guards Mechanized Army:

Since 3 August, major elements of the 6th Guards Tank Division returned from the Gallin-Wartenburg training area (southeast of Wittenberg). Between 10 and 11 August there was night practice involving all weapons. The Wittenberg post was more lightly occupied than usual.

On 30 July the Engineer Camp near Rosslau/Elbe was again vacated on account of floods. Units stationed there again left for the Lukow area.

4. Fourth Guards Mechanized Army:

On 10 August, elements presumably belonging to the 68th Guards Tank Regiment of the 6th Guards Mechanized Division returned from the Templin training grounds to Kaulsdorf in

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On 14 August, elements of the 63rd AAA Division returned from the Wustrow AAA Range to Fuerstenwalde

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On 12 August, the 7th Guards Mechanized Division returned from Jueterbog to Frankfurt/Oder

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Between 15 and 16 August, one shipment belonging to the 10th Guards Mechanized Division, with load exceeding standard measurement (presumably T-54's), moved from Frankfurt/Oder to Satzkorn.

On 16 August, a tank firing detail moved from Satzkorn to Haldensleben

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Between 16 and 17 August, two shipments with 14 and 16 flatcars respectively, with load exceeding standard measurements (presumably T-54's), moved from Frankfurt/Oder to Satzkorn.

The division exercises of the 25th Tank Division, which began on 20 July, terminated on 27 July.

Between 22 July and 10 August, there were intensive artillery, mortar and rocket launcher firing practices in the Templin training grounds.

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5. 4th Artillery Corps:

On 12 August, twenty-four 85-mm AA guns and seven 37-mm AA guns belonging to the 32nd AAA Division were returned to Artillerie Kaserne (4442), Frankfurt/Oder.

6. Third Shock Army:

Between 7 and 8 August, minor columns, including rocket launchers, 120-mm mortars and 76-mm field guns, returned from Letzling Heath to Magdeburg.

Between 6 and 9 August, three shipments of units of the Third AAA Division were rotated from Magdeburg to Wustrow; and four shipments of units were rotated from Wustrow to Magdeburg.

Between 7 and 11 August, a tank firing detail of the 136th Guards Heavy Tank and Self-propelled-gun Regiment returned from Letzling Heath to Burg.

On 7 and 11 August, a tank firing detail left Burg for Letzling Heath.

Between 1 and 9 August elements of the 304th Artillery Brigade (100-mm AT guns) were observed in Letzling Heath.

On 4 August, elements (152-mm Field Howitzers) were returned from Letzling Heath to Burg.

On 6 August, two shipments with elements of an unidentified AAA Regiments returned from Wustrow to Burg.

On 9 August, anti-tank gun units of the 63rd Guards Mechanized Regiment of the 19th Guards Mechanized Division returned from Letzling Heath to Halberstadt.

On 9 August, elements of the 953rd AAA Battalion of the 207th Motorized Rifle Division left Tangermuende for Wustrow in one shipment.

Between 16 and 18 August, there was an assembly of forces on the Genthin-Parchim road. There was also intensive air activity in the Genthin area.

7. Eighth Guards Army:

On 9 August, the 13th AAA Division returned in two shipments from Wustrow to Weimar. On 10 August, two shipments were sent to Wustrow.

Between 11 and 12 August Army Artillery Brigades returned in four shipments from Altengrabow to Altenburg.

Between 8 and 12 August, major elements of the 308th Artillery Brigade returned in seven shipments from Altengrabow to Gera.

On 9 August the bulk of the 316th Guards Rocket Launcher Regiment returned in one shipment from Altengrabow to the Saalfeld post.

On 9 August, elements of the 497th AAA Regiment returned in one shipment from Wustrow to Rudolstadt.

On 11 August, 50 percent of the Rifle Regiment of the 39th Guards Motorized Rifle Division were at the Plauen post.

Between 5 and 11 August there were no exercises at Zeitz Forest because of floods. On 9 August, there was one shipment of Soviet units from Altengrabow to Ohrdruf. On 10 August, there were four shipments of the 498th AAA Regiment from Naumburg to Wustrow.

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On 8 August, the Rifle Regiment of the 57th Guards Motorized Rifle Division was observed at the Naumburg post.

On 2 August, the Tank Firing Detail of the Weissenfels Tank and Self-propelled-gun Regiment returned from Letzling Heath.

C. KVP:

Between 29 July and 3 August, there was one shipment each day with elements of the Motorized Rifle Regiment of Prora. These shipments included artillery which was shipped by rail from Binz to the Luebtheen training grounds located south of Hagenow.

In late July, elements of the Motorized Rifle Regiment of Weissenfels were at a summer camp in the Annaberg area.

Between 18 July and 10 August the KVP Engineers, presumably from the Engineer Battalion at Zeithain, were at the engineer training site south of Muehlberg/Elbe.

On 11 August, the Artillery Battalion of the Mechanized Regiment of Oranienburg returned to their post. There are still elements of the Oranienburg tank unit at Lehnitz Forest.

As of 13 August, the Mechanized Regiment of Potsdam was still at the training grounds east of Klietz; however, this regiment was scheduled to return to its post after 15 August.

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